

# ADEM Groundwater Conference June 8, 2011

A graphic consisting of a red circle with a globe-like pattern, containing the text "One GREAT Team". A large yellow arrow points from the circle to the right, containing the text "Southern Company Generation".

One  
**GREAT**  
Team

Southern Company Generation

## Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration

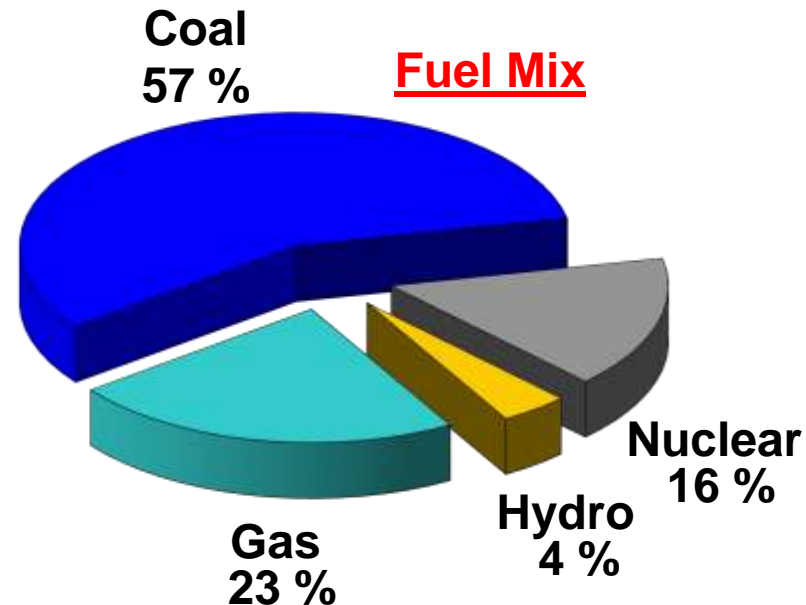
Southern Company Research & Development in support  
of Commercial Deployment

*By Richard A. Esposito, PhD*

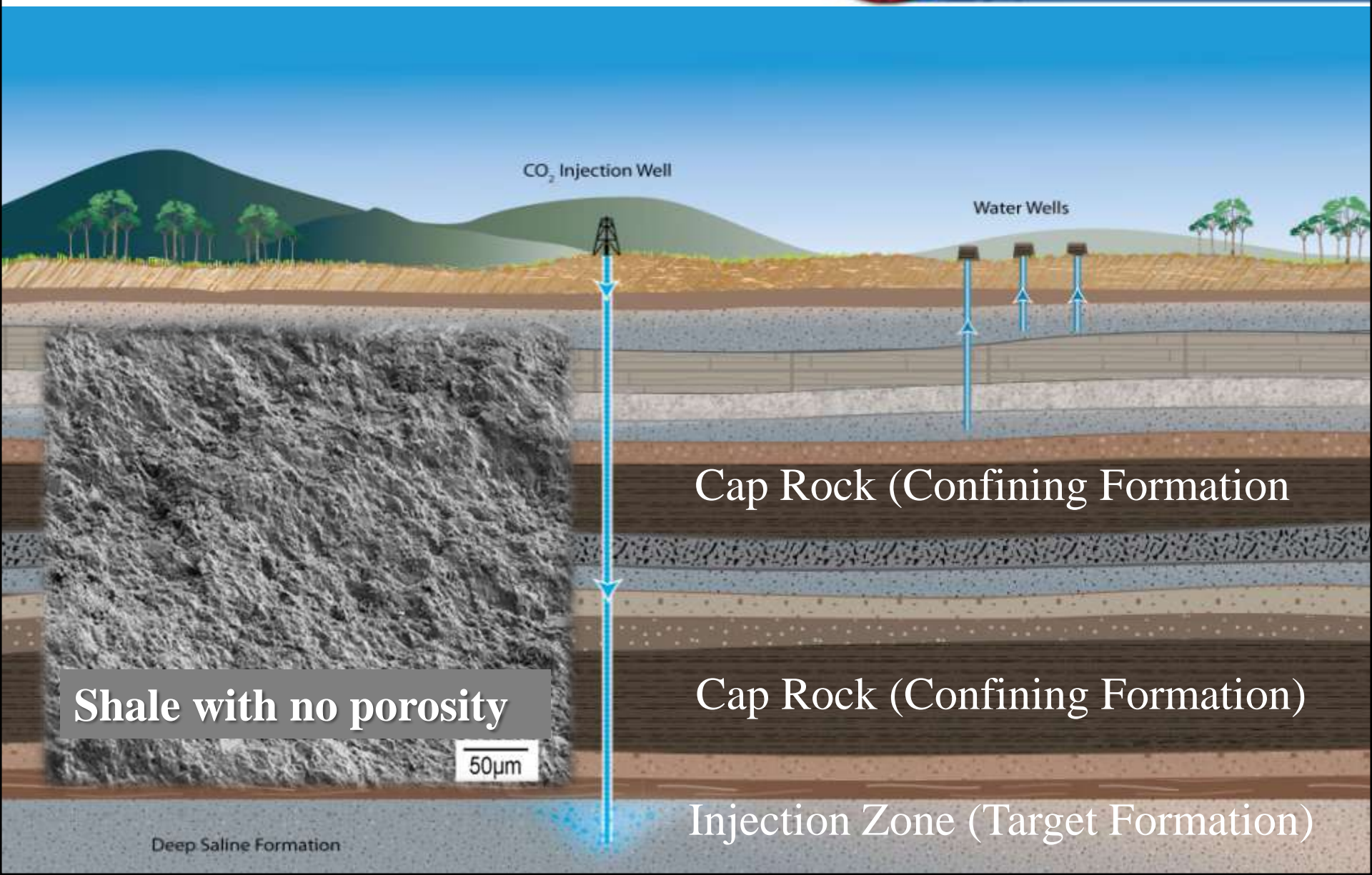
# Southern Company (NYSE:SO)



- Regional energy company
  - Alabama, Georgia, Gulf, Mississippi, and Southern Nuclear
  - Southern Power - largest wholesale power producer in the Southeast
  - Southern Company Services - in house engineering & research services
  - More than 46,000 MW of electric generating capacity (79 plants)
- Core service area
  - 120,000 square miles in four southeastern states
  - 4.4 million customers and 26,000 employees
- One of the largest producers of electricity in the U.S. and the largest user of coal



# Geologic sequestration



CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Well

Water Wells

Cap Rock (Confining Formation)

Cap Rock (Confining Formation)

Injection Zone (Target Formation)

Shale with no porosity

50µm

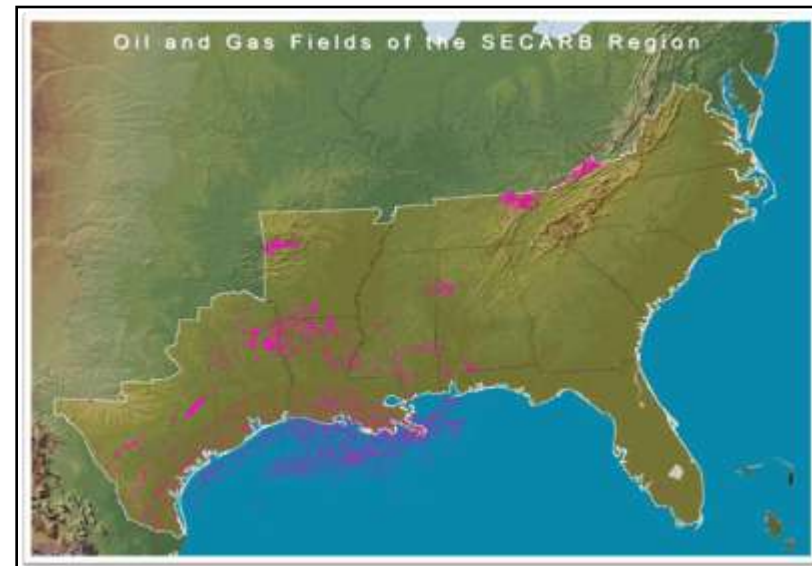
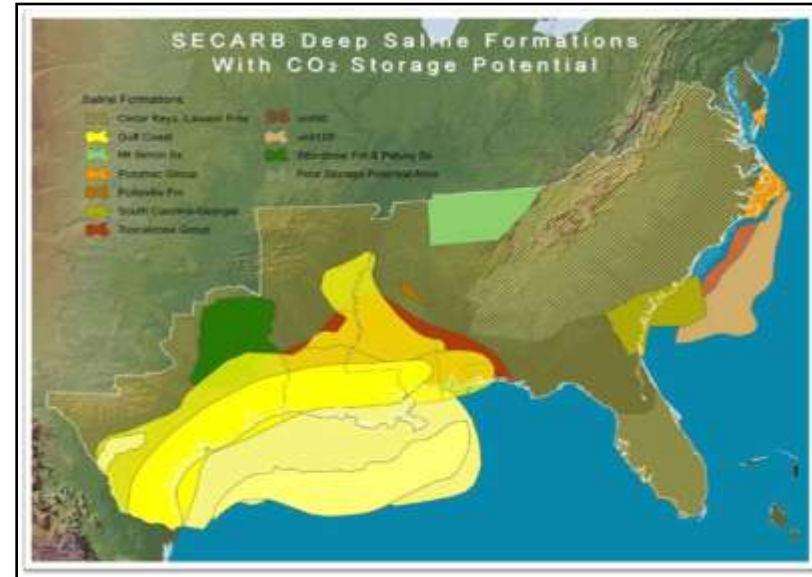
Deep Saline Formation



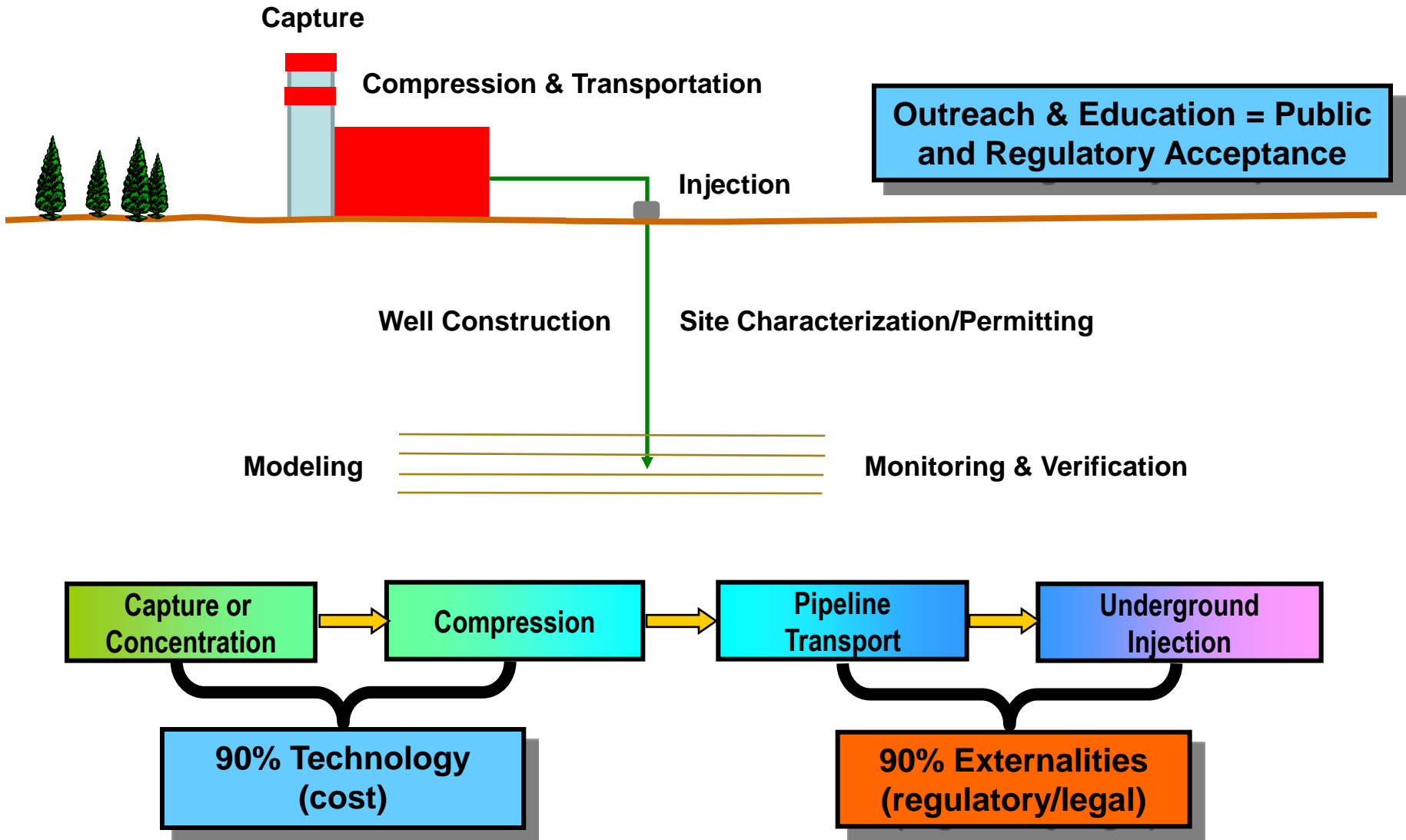
# Diverse storage options

- Deep saline formations
- Storage in oil fields associated with CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR
- Storage in coal seams associated with CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM
- Depleted oil and gas fields
- Unconventional reservoirs such as basalt and shale
- Sub-sea bed formations

**Southeast storage capacity exceeds 2 trillion tons and provides > 1,000 years of storage for all source emissions in the region**



# Carbon Capture and Storage



# Drivers & R&D objectives



- **CCS Technology Drivers**

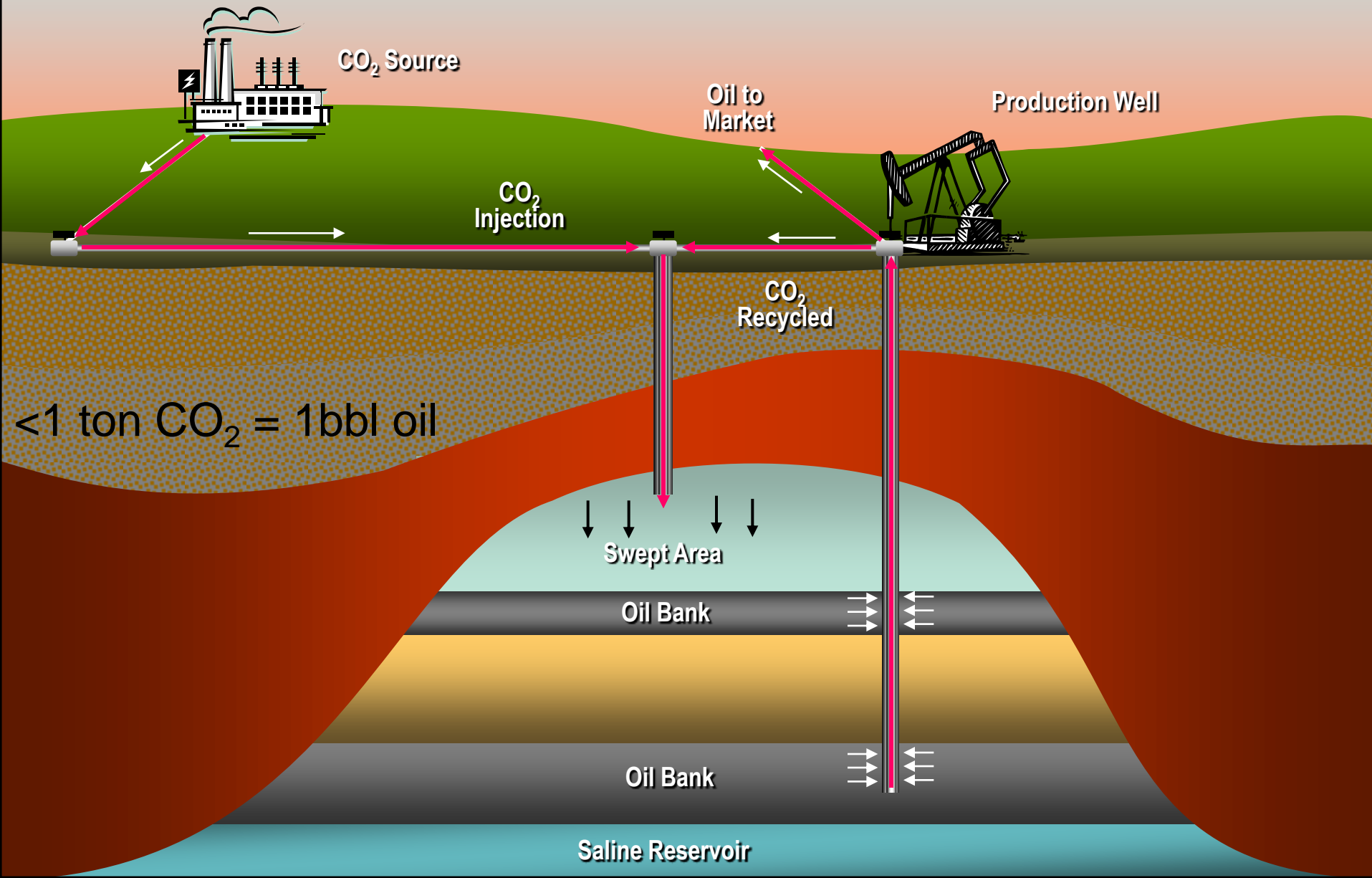
- Compliance with carbon legislation or GHG environmental regulation
- 200 years of domestic fossil fuel resources
- Fossil-fuel generation assets/new environmental controls
- Challenging regional renewable portfolio
- World class sequestration geology with strong demand for CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR

- **CCS Research Objectives**

- Demonstrate commercially viable option that supports investment decision by 2020
  - Support roll-out of innovative new technology
  - Broaden list of candidate sites/geologies/use options for CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Outreach & education with CCS stakeholders



# Integrating CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR and geologic storage





# Saline reservoir pilot injection





# Geologic drill cores



Advanced Resources International, Inc.  
Mississippi Power Company No. 11-1 Well  
Jackson County, Mississippi

HH-38927

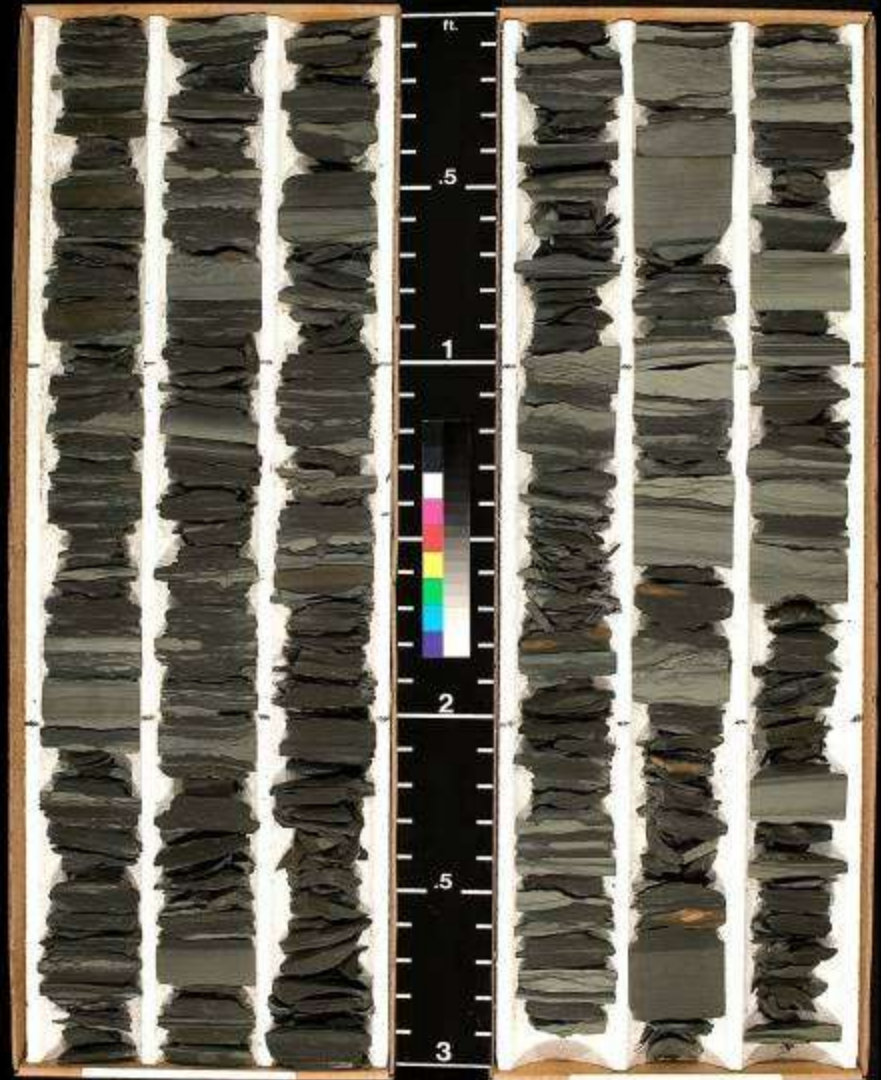
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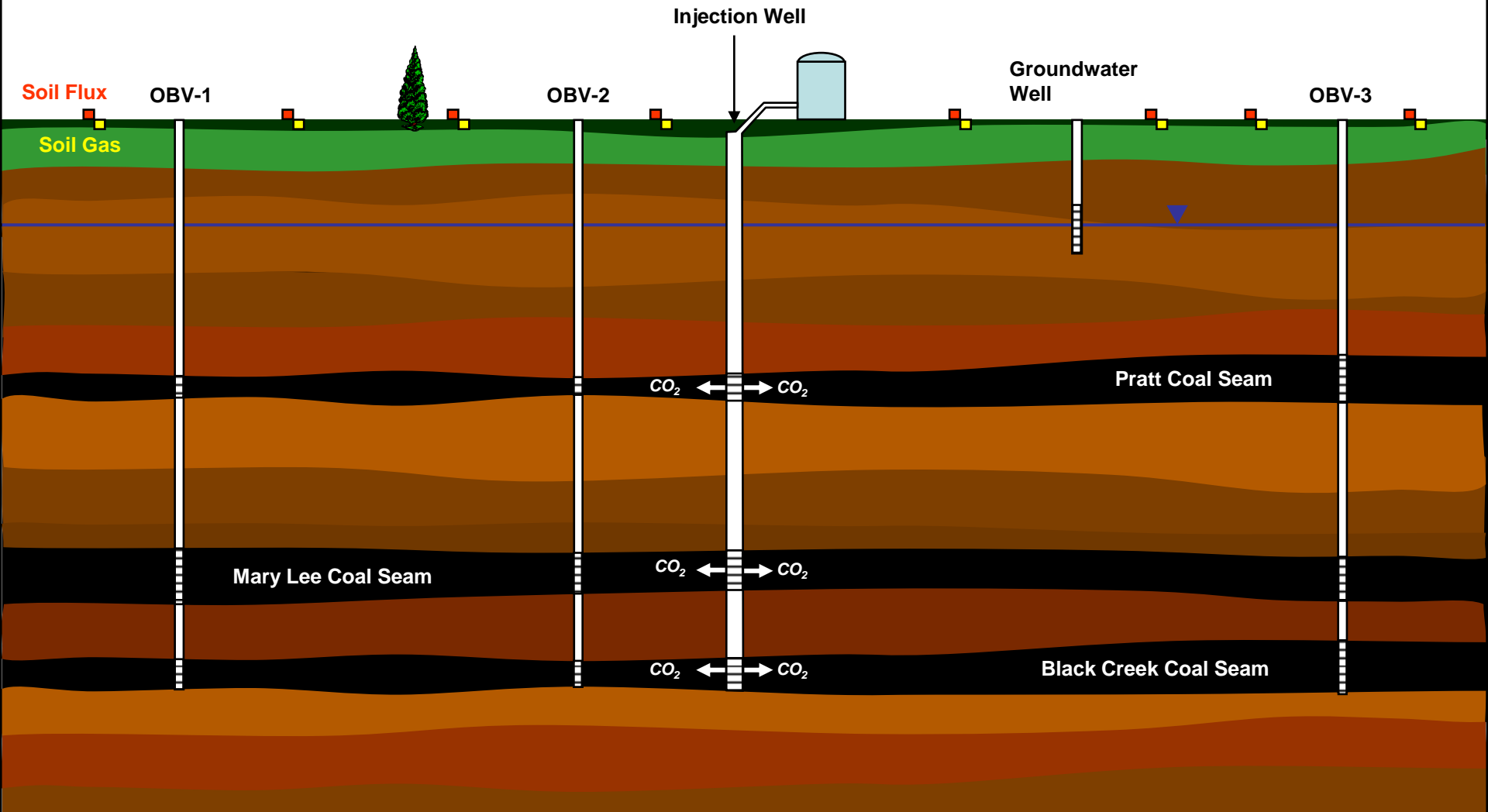
Advanced Resources International, Inc.  
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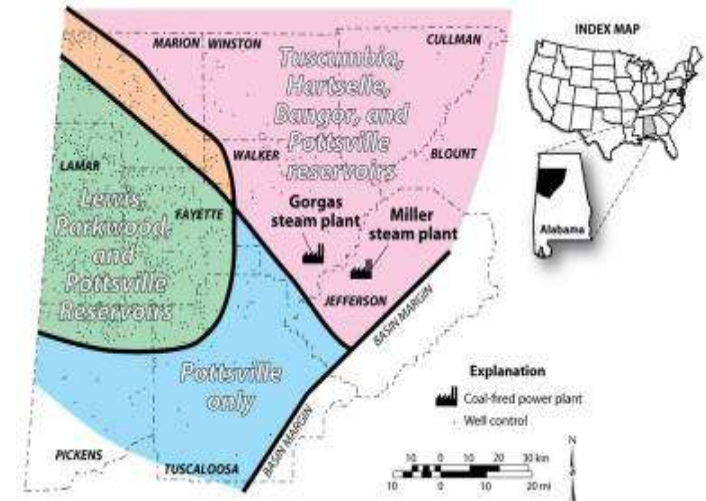


# Coal seam pilot injection





# Gorgas site characterization



**Drill exploratory stratigraphic test well**

**Sample reservoirs and seals**

**Shoot 2-D seismic profiles**

**Borehole logging and well-testing techniques**

**Laboratory analysis/reservoir simulation**

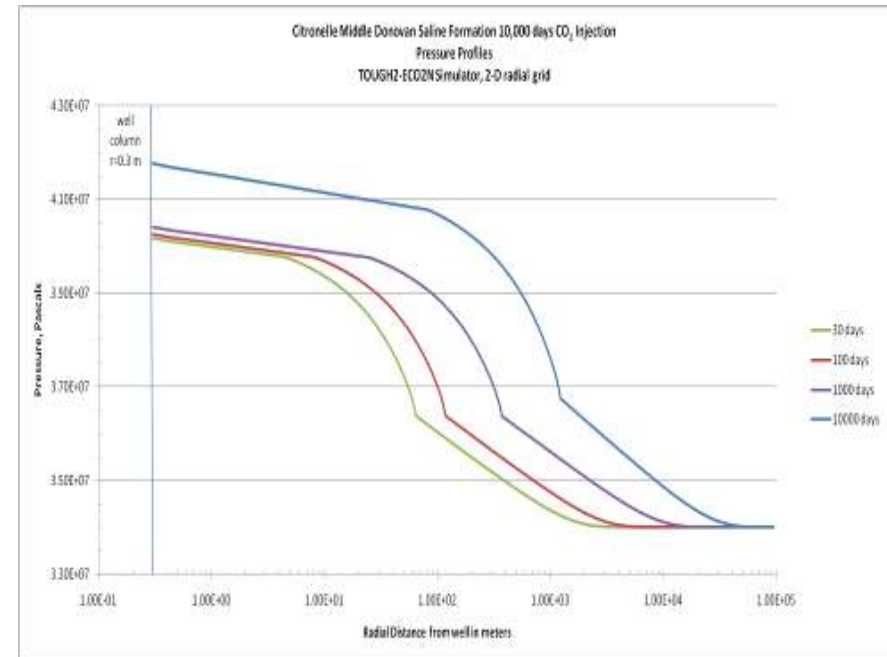
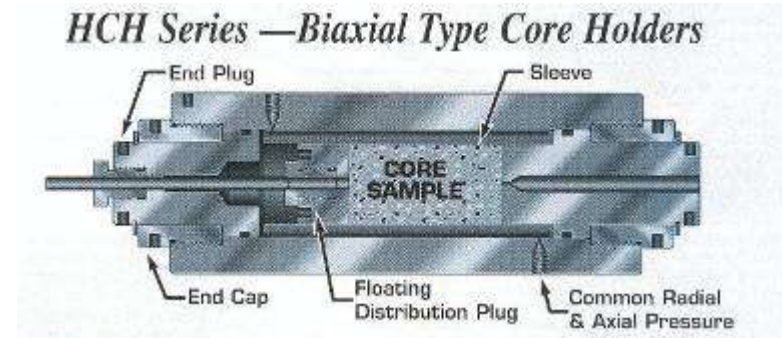


# Cap rock integrity lab



## Research supported by:

- U.S. Department of Energy  
"Geologic Sequestration Training and Research"
  - Southern Company  
"Geologic Carbon Sequestration: Cap Rock Integrity Laboratory"
  - Located at the University of Alabama at Birmingham – Department of Mechanical Engineering (Dr. Peter Walsh)
- ## Purpose:
- Long-term storage integrity
  - Reassure stakeholders that geologic sequestration is safe and secure.
  - Regulation of injection pressure



# CO<sub>2</sub> in groundwater study

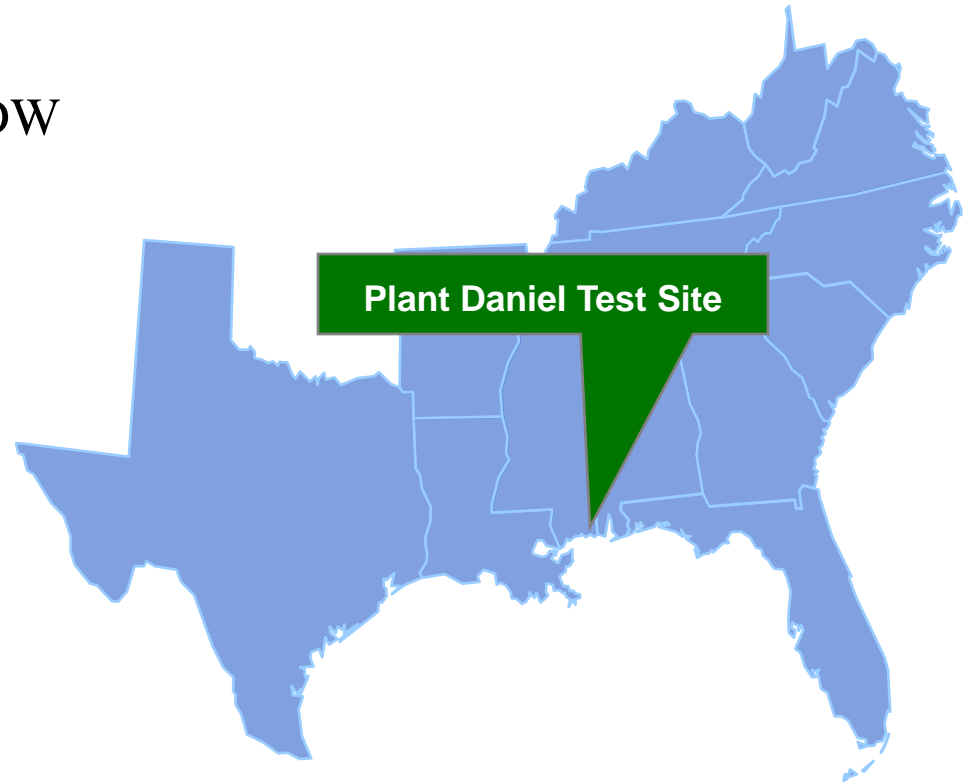


- **Scope of Work**

- Simulate CO<sub>2</sub> intrusion into USDW
- Observe effects in the field
- Model experiment

- **Purpose of Study**

- Address stakeholder concerns
- Identify indicator parameters
- Understand abatement options

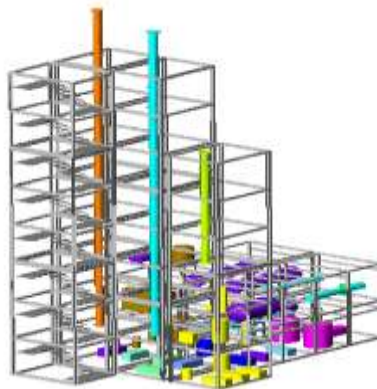
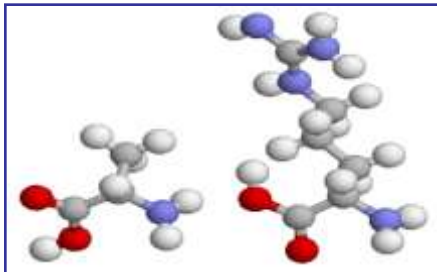


*Lab studies and modeling suggests that CO<sub>2</sub> intrusion into aquifers may mobilize naturally-occurring metals and compromising quality of water. Field pilot projects provide field test-beds to understand the reality of this issue.*

# National Carbon Capture Center



- Unique **flexible testing facility** where new processes can be tested on coal derived gas at various scales.
- A technology development facilitator by providing facilities for **scale-up from bench-top to engineering-scale**.
- Include a **wide variety of participants and partners**. Find “Best-in-class” Technology.
- Deliver innovation via a collaborative project portfolio that provides an **accelerated pathway to cost-effective CO<sub>2</sub> capture technology** for coal fueled power production.



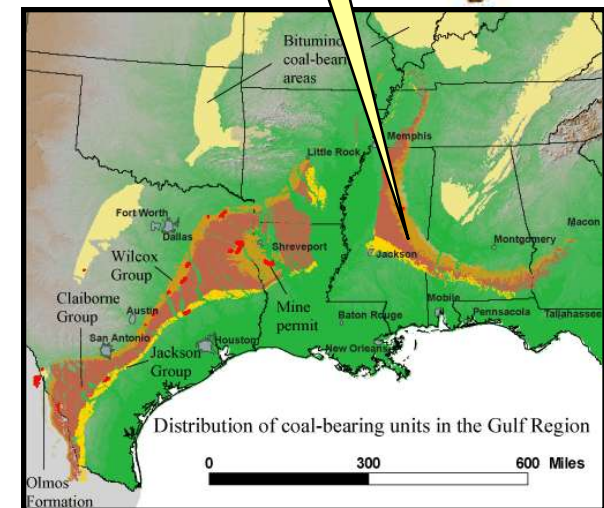


# Commercial Clean Coal



## *Demonstrating CCS with IGCC plus EOR in Mississippi*

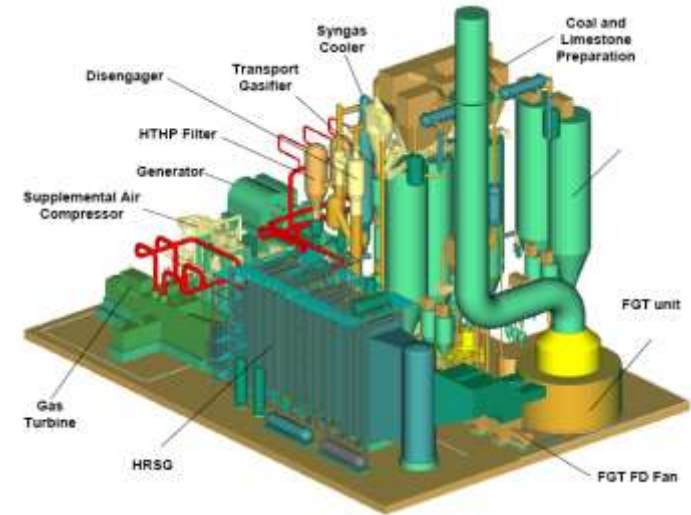
- 2x1 Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle
  - 582 MW peak and 524 MW on syngas
  - **~65% CO<sub>2</sub> capture** (~800 lb/MWhr emission rate/equivalent to NGCC)
  - Mine mouth lignite – NG Backup
- Owner & operator: Mississippi Power
- Over \$2 billion capital investment
- Commercial operating date: May 2014
- Captured CO<sub>2</sub> used for EOR (3.4 MMt/yr)
- Mississippi Public Service Commission certificate issued June 3, 2010



# TRIG™ Gasification Process



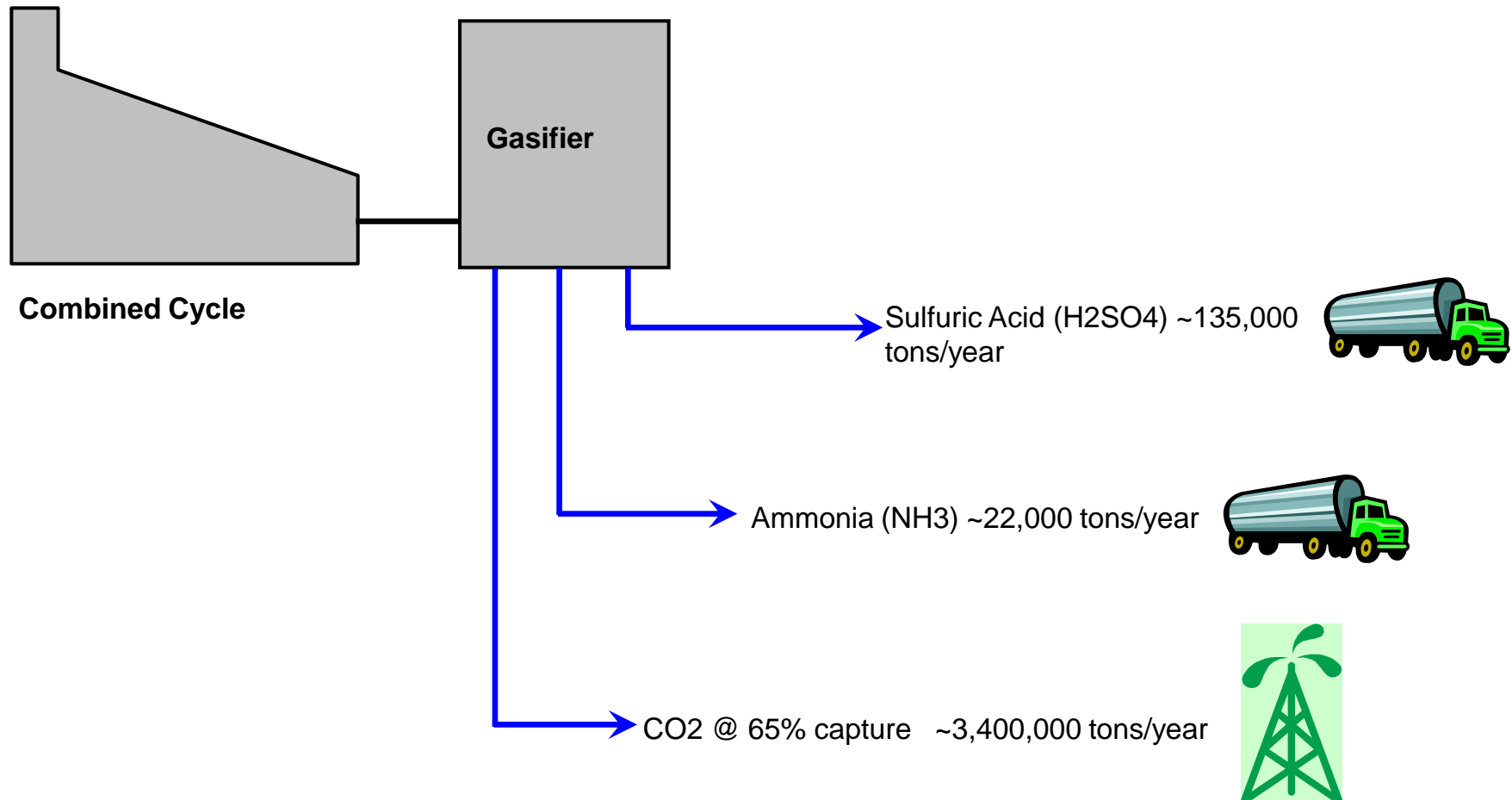
- Transport Integrated Gasification
- Product of more than 15 years research
- Developed at the Power Systems Development Facility (PSDF) in Wilsonville, Alabama; now the National Carbon Capture Center
- Sponsored by the DOE, Southern Company and KBR



# IGCC By-Products



## Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle

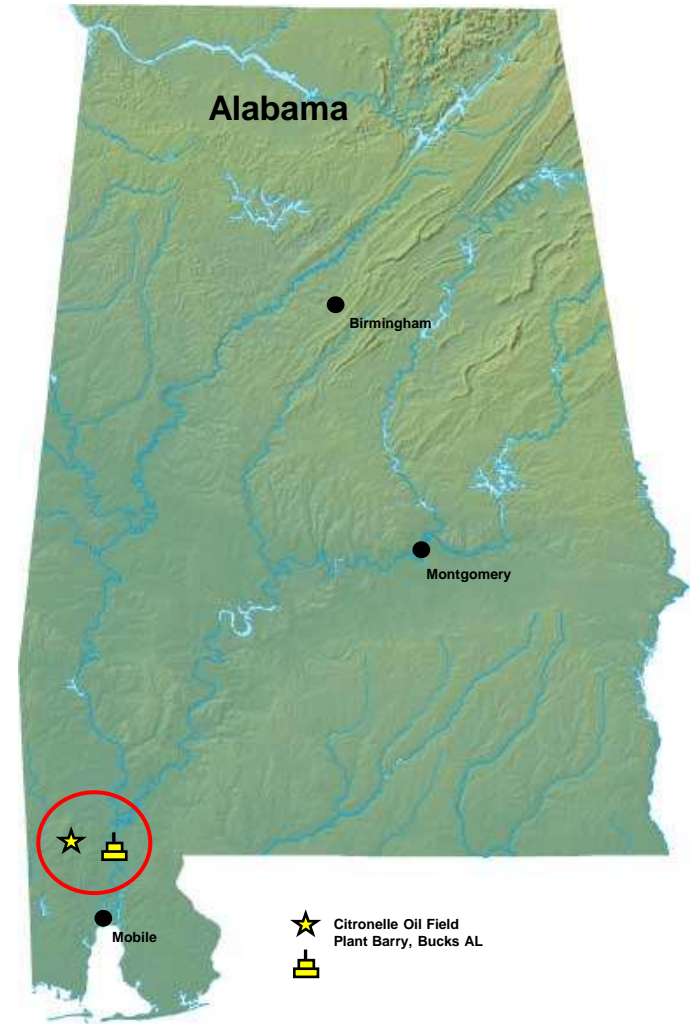




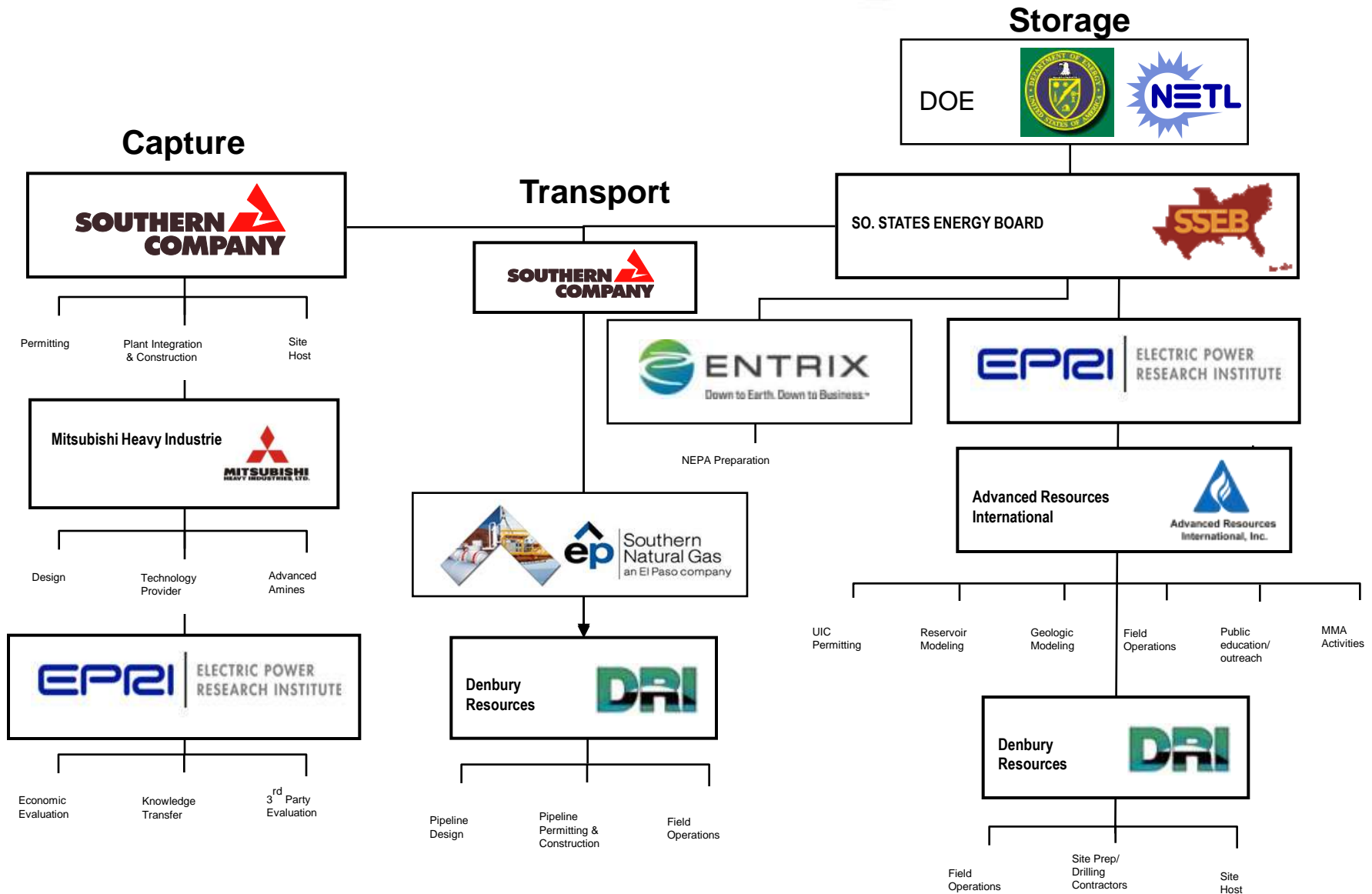
# Barry CCS Demo Overview



- Fully integrated CO<sub>2</sub> capture, transport and storage project
- Construct and operate a 25 MW equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> capture unit at Alabama Power's (Southern Co.) Plant Barry
- Construct and operate a 12 mile CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline that will transport CO<sub>2</sub> from Plant Barry to the Citronelle Dome
- Inject 400,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into the Paluxy Formation (saline) over 2 to 3 years
- Conduct 3 years of monitoring after CO<sub>2</sub> injection and then close the site



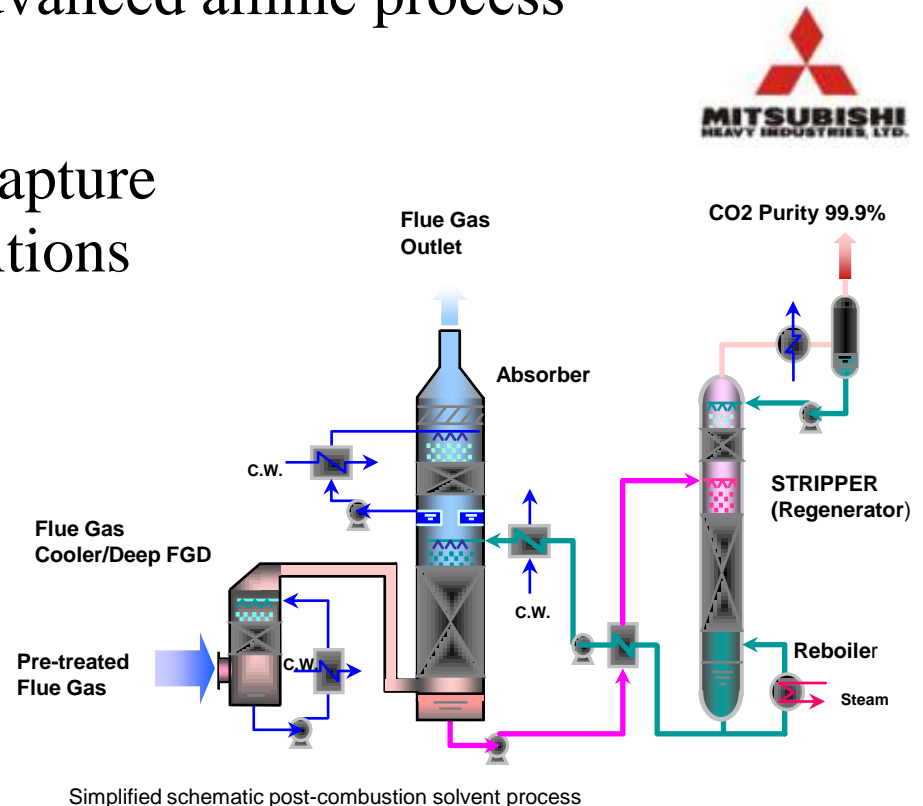
# Diverse Project Team



# Capture Scope & Objectives



- Scope:
  - Demonstrate post-combustion capture of CO<sub>2</sub> from Plant Barry flue gas using MHI's advanced amine process
- Objectives:
  - Demonstrate integrated CO<sub>2</sub> capture under realistic operating conditions typical of a coal-fired plant
  - Economics: Establish realistic values for the energy penalty and implementation costs
  - Test reliability of solvent-based capture







# Capture Plant Update



**2010**



**2011**



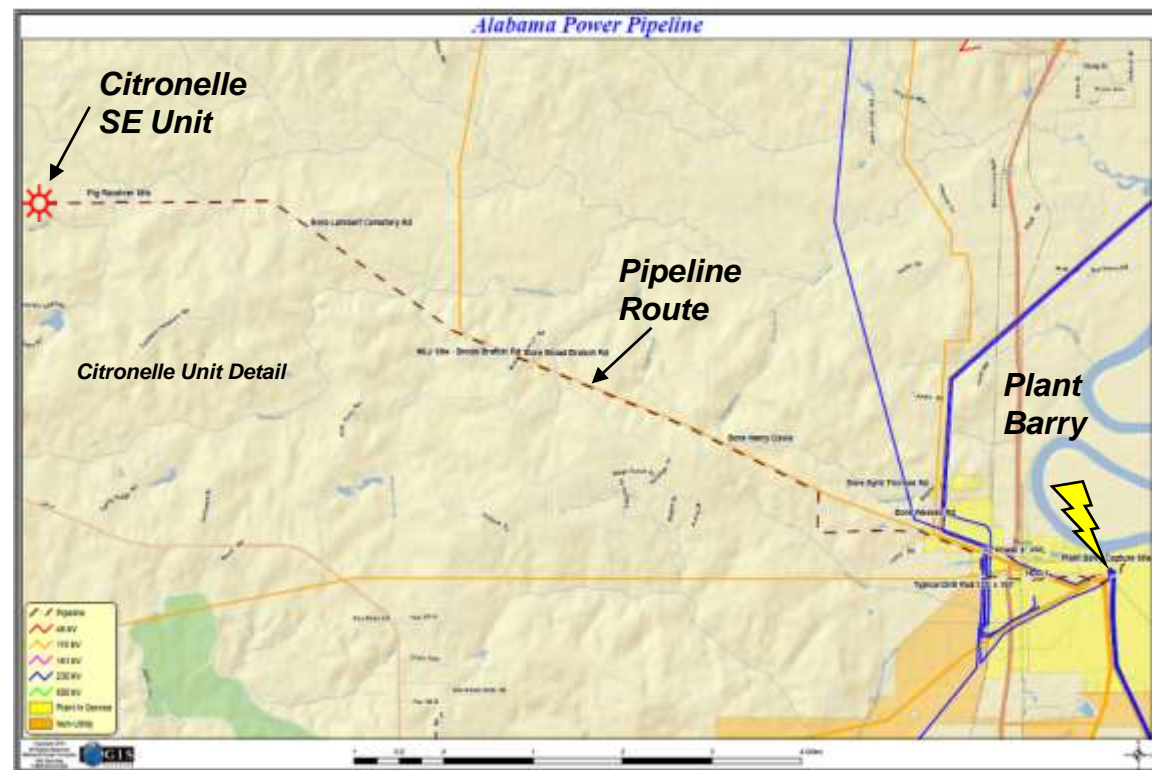
Photos Courtesy of Southern Company

**Capture plant & compressor started operations on June 4**



# CO<sub>2</sub> Pipeline Overview

- Approx. 12 mi to the SE operators unit in Citronelle Field
- Right-of-Way
  - Utility corridor for 80%; 9 land owners
- Pipe specifications
  - 4-in pipe diameter
  - X70 carbon steel
  - DOT 29 CFR 195 liquid pipeline; buried 3 feet with surface vegetation maintenance
  - 14 directional drills under sensitive
  - Purity is 97% dry CO<sub>2</sub> at 115°F, 1,500 psig
- Right-of-way habitat (pine forest in the Mobile River watershed; some wetlands)

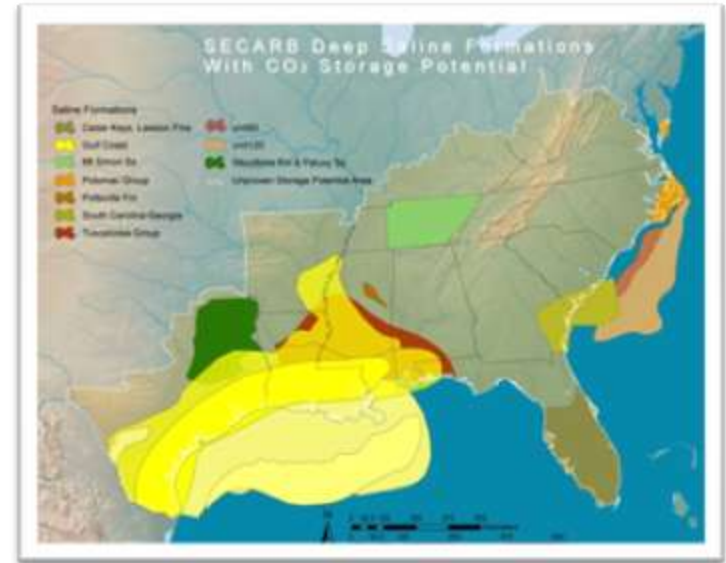




# Storage Scope & Objectives



- Scope:
  - Demonstrate safe, secure CO<sub>2</sub> injection and storage in regionally significant saline reservoirs in the southeast U.S. region
- Objectives:
  - Identify and mitigate potential leakage risk
  - Evaluate local storage capacity, injectivity and trapping mechanisms for the Paluxy Formation (saline reservoirs)
  - Demonstrate how a saline reservoir's architecture can be used to maximize CO<sub>2</sub> storage and minimize the areal extent of the CO<sub>2</sub> plume
  - Test the adaptation of commercially available oil field tools and techniques for monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> storage



System	Series	Stratigraphic Unit	Major Sub Units		Potential Reservoirs and Confining Zones	
Tertiary	Plio- Pliocene		Citronelle Formation		Freshwater Aquifer	
	Miocene	Undifferentiated			Freshwater Aquifer	
	Oligocene	Vicksburg Group	Chicasawhay Fm. Bucatanna Clay		Base of USDW	
					Local Confining Unit	
	Eocene	Jackson Group			Minor Saline Reservoir	
		Claiborne Group	Talahatta Fm.		Saline Reservoir	
		Wilcox Group	Hatchetigbee Sand		Saline Reservoir	
	Paleocene		Bashi Marl			
			Salt Mountain LS			
		Midway Group	Porters Creek Clay		Confining Unit	
Cretaceous	Upper	Selma Group			Confining Unit	
		Eutaw Formation			Minor Saline Reservoir	
		Tuscaloosa Group	Upper Tusc.		Minor Saline Reservoir	
			Mid. Tusc.	Marine Shale		Confining Unit
			Lower Tusc.	Pilot Sand Massive sand		Saline Reservoir
			Cretaceous	Lower	Washita- Fredericksburg	Dantzler sand Basal Shale
		Primary Confining Unit				
Paluxy Formation	'Upper' 'Middle' 'Lower'				Proposed Injection Zone	
Mooringsport Formation					Confining Unit	
Ferry Lake Anhydrite					Confining Unit	
Donovan Sand	Rodessa Fm.				Oil Reservoir	
	'Upper' 'Middle' 'Lower'				Minor Saline Reservoir	
					Oil Reservoir	



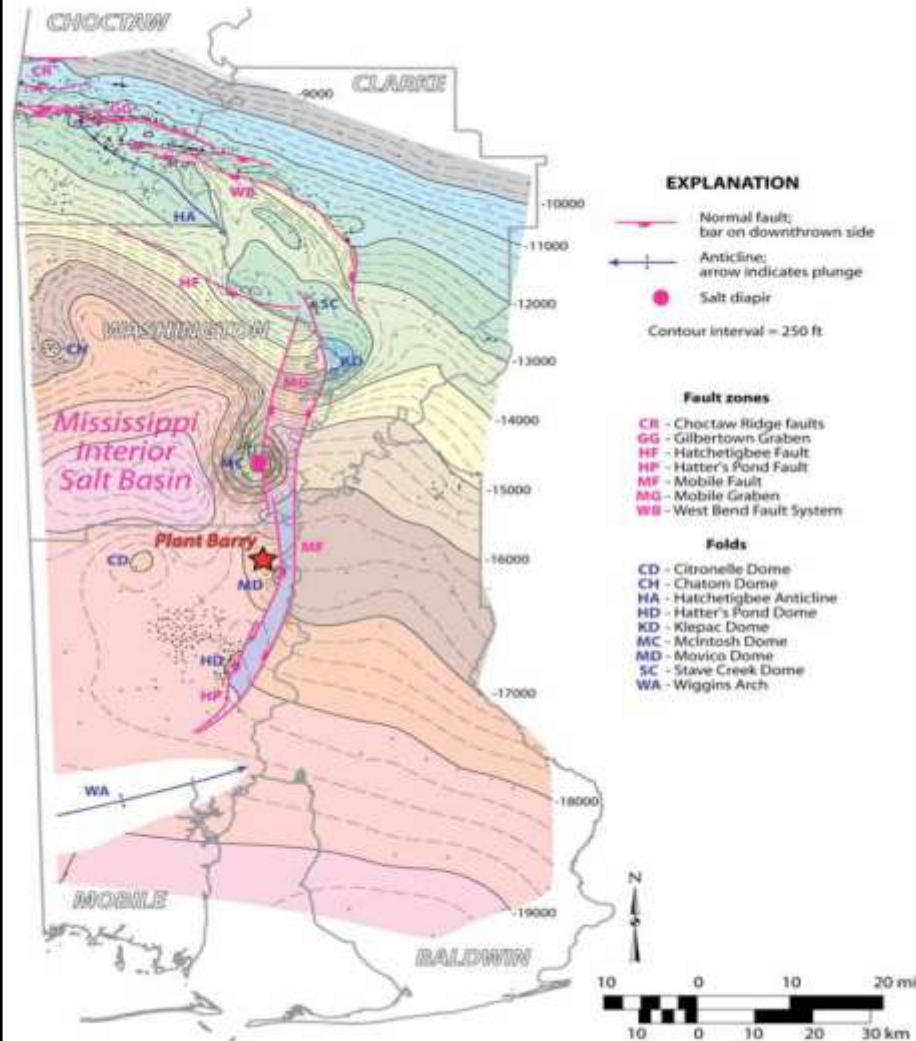
## Stacked Storage Reservoirs

Tertiary Injection Zone (Eutaw Fm.)

Secondary Injection Zone (Tuscaloosa Fm.)

Proposed Injection Zone (Paluxy Fm.)

# Citronelle Dome



**Sequestration site is on the southeast flank of Citronelle dome in the Paluxy Formation:**

- Proven four-way closure
- No evidence of faulting or fracturing
- Large storage capacity with good permeability and porosity
- Multiple local and regional confining units between injection targets and base of USDW
- Historic oil and gas wells provide available geologic information



# Geologic Storage Update



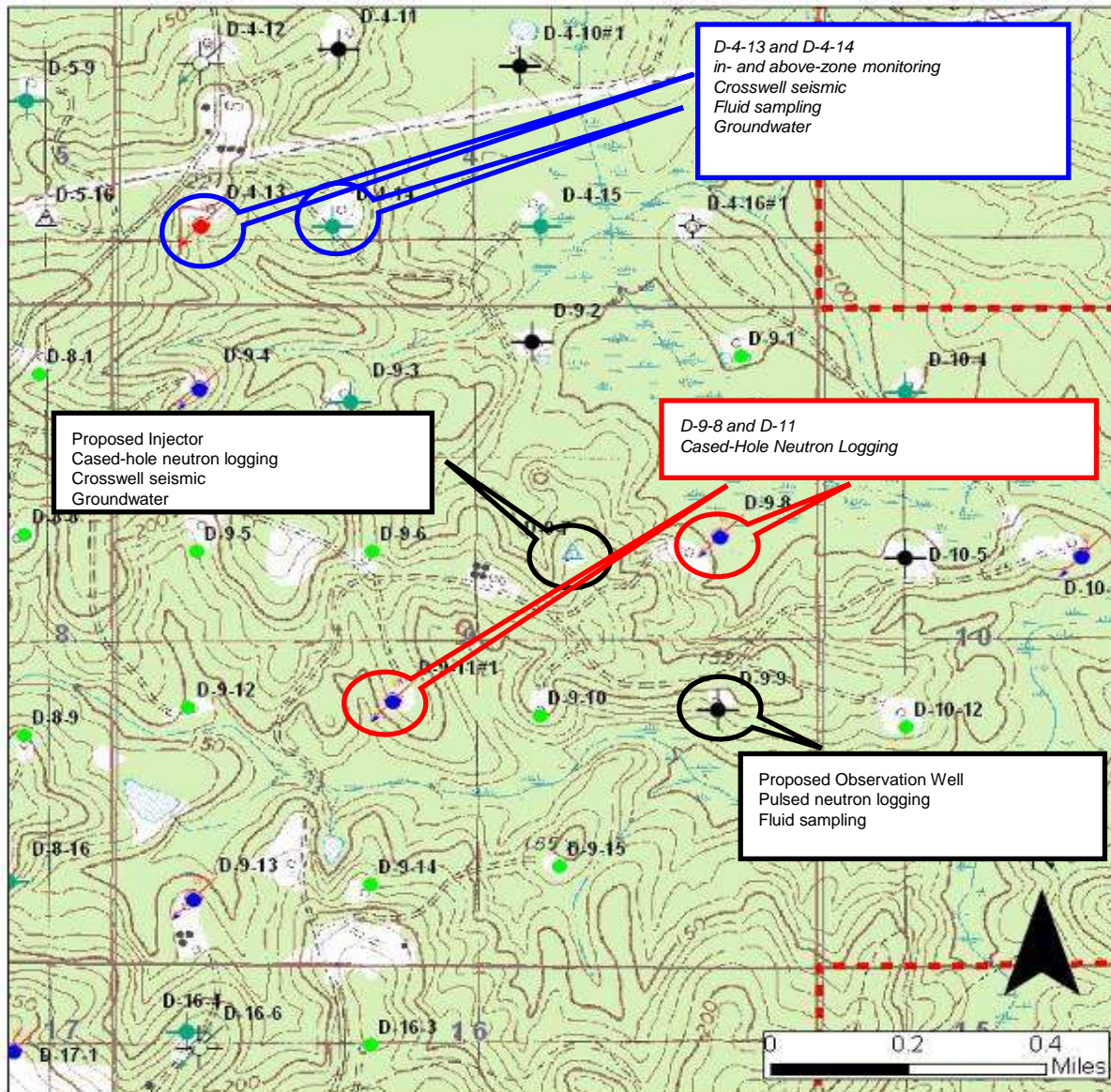
- Characterization Well D9-8#2 started 31-Dec-2010
  - 32 days to drill and install well
  - Total depth 11,817 ft (3,602 m)
  - 98 feet (30 m) of whole core
  - 45 percussion sidewall cores
  - Well logs (Triple Combo, MRI, Mineralogy, Dipole Sonic, CBL)
- Two injection wells to be installed upon receiving UIC permit



Rig on location at well D9-8#2

**Characterization well successfully completed January 31, 2011**

# CO<sub>2</sub> Injection & Monitoring



- Groundwater
- Cross-well Seismic
- Vertical Seismic Profiling
- P&T (in-zone and above-zone)
- Fluid Sampling
- RST logging
- Tracers



# Lessons learned ... start early



Southern Company Generation

